PERSONAL/CONFIDENTIAL

Ann Alanson
& John E. Abernathy Jr.
7602 Riverdale Road
Lanham, Maryland

June 25th

Dear Ann:

Just heard Westinghouse broadcast newsman(?) Pell rake Senator McCarthy over the transmitting coils on the Dick Cavett Show on ABC-TV; premise: McCarthy has become "arrogant, aloof, taken by himself" and other bits of vitriol; perchance this is an attitude you sense in other journalistic jackals these days.

I have given considerable thought to the working newsman best suited to step beside the Senator in his final drive; I come up with but two names:Sandy Vanocur and Peter Jennings.

Vanocur having been a close friend of Kennedy's will make it difficult to broach; however, it is my opinion that Vanocur has now matured to the point where principle means something to him.

Jennings is young, attractive, articulate, and incredibly high in intelligence; having been Anchorman on ABC-TV's net news show, he is quite well-known throughout the country; I know Jennings on a casual basis, have no doubt about his capacity.

Senator McCarthy cannot delegate approaching these men (or whomever); he must broach the matter in a most personal manner; he will have to inspire them to service with total candor.

I deem it absolutely manditory that a man of the abovementioned stature be introduced into the McCarthy campaign soon; sibling rivalries and personal/professional nepotism may be tolerable in corporations and government, but will render the McCarthy search for public and delegate support ineffectual.

Next, I want you to try and arrange a confidential meeting between Senator McCarthy and Harold Weisberg, author-critic of the Warren Report; he lives in Maryland, can meet with the Senator on short notice. If you trust my judgment - do not introduce a middleman to "screen" this suggested meeting; McCarthy's life is in jeopardy, and Weisberg knows from what direction and source; don't let the

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horrors of Dallas, Memphis, and Los Angeles visit him too; you should know better than to dismiss this plea as overly emotional. Weisberg can be reached in Frederick, Maryland at: 473-8186; his line is tapped by "them", so do not disclose other than your name, which Weisberg will recognize, arrange a rendevouz before going on to meet with the Senator - and watch your "tail".

If anyone thinks it cannot happen here - then they must be rationalizing the last 4½ years as merely a bad dream.

The appointments of Fortas and Thornberry - and Warren's conditional(!) resignation - boggles the mind; this would indicate Johnson intends to taint this Republic with his putrid brand for many years to come; no doubt Congress will vacate its Constitutional vows and let these thieves go unheaded into the national vaults of justice; mark my word: Johnson will find a way to embalm J. Edgar and install his already rotten carcass under glass in his office in perpetuity; upon entering his throne room a pre-recorded message (by Ephram Zimbalist Jr.)will thunder: "Beware! God has told me to warn America about the Commies - and Senator McCarthy!!!".....

In the immortal words of whoever: "Yes, Virginia, there is a Third Party.....somewhere".

Best Personal Regards,

John

JGC: bm